



*Dr. Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary*

After the brutal winter we just endured, spring finally arrived, a little late. Here it is April and the spring flowers are just starting to bloom. And now another cool snap. Doesn't Mother Nature know that's not allowed after Good Friday? And – the legislative session is in full swing. Speaking of unpredictable! Let's hope we fare well with both the session and the weather.

As usual this issue of *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* is jam packed with news. It never fails to amaze me – OJJ staff are so involved with their communities, with their clients, with their work – and often staff's families take part.

We had a ball at the American Heart Association HeartWalk in Baton Rouge and were delighted to have some staff from outside Baton Rouge join in. Bridge City was out in force and a group from Hammond OJJ set the pace, literally. Speaking of families and friends, although the Team OJJ picture on page 8 does not show the entire group, a lot of staff brought family members and friends to join in the fun and run (or walk) for heart health. We're already talking about a bigger and better OJJ turnout next year. And an OJJ tent to call home for the day. Thanks to **Administrative Assistant Gwen Brinkley** for spearheading the HeartWalk event.

Heartfelt condolences to **BCCY Deputy Director Michael Gaines** and **Jetson Group Leader Micon Gaines** on the recent loss of **Mrs. Stephania Gaines**, Michael's wife and Micon's mother. Please keep the Gaines family in your thoughts and prayers.

Keep the good news coming and continue to share your success stories. I hope you are as inspired as I am when I read about the creative ways you find to help our kids, and meet the mission daily as you go about your work. We are doing good work as an agency, and I enjoy sharing it through your newsletter.

Wishing you a happy April.

"Doc" *Dr. Mary L. Livers*

## The Daily Motivator

### Trust and truth

Trust comes from truth, even when the truth hurts. Especially when the truth hurts. You cannot have trust without truth. And without trust, nothing is achieved.

To follow your own ideas and possibilities, you must have faith in them. You must trust them. You must trust yourself. That means being truthful with yourself -- bluntly and sincerely truthful.

The same dynamic applies even more profoundly when working with others. Would you provide your support, your time, or your expertise to someone you did not trust? Would you commit your energy and your resources to someone who had lied to you?

Without truth and trust, all our frenzied activity accomplishes nothing. Seek trust by accepting nothing less than the truth. Nurture trust by recognizing, respecting and appreciating truth. Create trust by living and acting in truth. In so doing, you will move steadily toward greatness.

-- Ralph Marston

**Thanks to Lafayette PPO/Inside Scoop Reporter Kevin Broussard for this tidbit:**

### Principal cancels school, citing too-nice weather

BELLINGHAM, Wash. -- A local school has called off school Wednesday due to exceptionally great weather. The principal of Bellingham Christian Church School says school will be canceled if Wednesday brings clear skies in the morning and a forecast of 63 degrees or higher. The planned Sun Day is to "celebrate an exceptionally nice day of the spring season, to promote positive school culture and just for fun," Principal Bob Sampson said. "Typically we cancel school for bad weather, so why not have some fun and cancel school due to fabulous weather?" Sampson said. Because the school had no snow days last winter, Sampson said, it can afford to take a day off in spring.

## Staff Spotlight

### Spotlight on...



**PPS Susan Miller,  
Baton Rouge OJJ**

**Susan Miller, Probation and Parole Supervisor** in the Baton Rouge Regional Office, spends her time, both personal and professional, taking care of other people's kids. Although she no longer personally supervises youth, she takes a lot of interest in her staff's caseloads, assisting whenever necessary. And, she is helping to raise her ten-year old nephew. "I love kids," Susan said. It shows.

Susan often picks up her nephew at school and tutors him in the evening, helping with homework when needed. "We are in the fourth grade this year," Susan chuckles. "And he's on the honor roll."

"Since high school I had always wanted to be a probation officer," Susan said, "although I wanted to be in the adult field. I never thought about juvenile."

Susan did become a PPO, after a short detour. After attending LSU, she lived in Monroe and spent several years as a special projects coordinator for Chase Manhattan Mortgage Co., handling charity events in the community and other company events. She also worked for the Monroe United Way organization. Susan applied for positions in the adult corrections system, and landed a job as a corrections officer at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center while she waited for an opening for a probation officer position. A juvenile position opened first...Susan has been with OJJ since February 2001.

"Susan is someone I can count on for anything," said **Baton Rouge OJJ Regional Manager Sue Larisey**. "The cases in her unit are always updated and her staff is well trained. Susan has a very 'hands on' approach in the daily supervision of her staff as well as other areas she is in charge of. Susan is our PPCT Instructor, SAVRY Master Trainer and Firearms Instructor. Susan was chosen for these special duties because I knew she would approach these tasks with professionalism and perfectionism. Susan is always the first one to step up and volunteer when extra hands are needed. She is a team player and someone who can be trusted. The Baton Rouge Office is fortunate to have someone with her knowledge. She is a natural born leader."

"I was lucky because I was promoted from a PPO1 to a supervisor very quickly," Susan said. "As a PPO 3, I supervised a few people, and after five years I became a supervisor. I always believed it could happen."

"I enjoy being here, in the juvenile system," Susan said. "I've been approached to move to adult, and we do lose a lot of people to adult. But we are more involved and invested in our cases than adult PPOs. Supervising juveniles is tough and demanding work. We receive rewards for the amount of investment that we make in our clients. Sometimes it's small, but it's always satisfying. We don't see success or rewards every day, but when we do, it makes it all worth it."

Susan calls herself a strict supervisor. "I expect a lot of my people," she said. "I know I'm hard to work for. I expect them to do what is appropriate on each case."

Her staff weighs in, speaking outside Susan's hearing, of course.

"Susan is really good to work for," said **PPO1 Myron Theriot**. "We are nothing if not well trained. We know she is in our court, and always has a helpful word for us. We get lots of face to face time with Susan and she's easy to get along with."

Those thoughts are echoed by the rest of her staff, including **PPO2 Larry Aaron, PPO3 Cobie Chauvin, PPO 2 Darla Hood, PPO2 Stephanie Krygowski** and **PPO2 Wendy Sarner**. Missing was **PPO2 Leslie Jones**, but the rest figured she would agree with their assessments.

"Susan is very detailed and she looks through our work with a fine-toothed comb," said Myron. "She manages a large caseload and is good with constructive criticism." Susan supervises seven PPOs and reviews every case in their caseloads from opening to closure. That's about 150 cases.



*PPS Susan Miller and staff: bottom row from left: Darla Hood, Cobie Chauvin; center row: Susan Miller, Myron Theriot; top row: Stephanie Krygowski, Larry Aaron, Wendy Sarner.*

"I work closely with my staff," Susan said. "I don't expect any more or less from them than I am willing to do myself. I want them to have the same passion for the job that I do. It's good when your passion is the same as your staff's. I'm really blessed to have such a good staff. I've supervised a lot of people, and I feel we have always had good relationships."

"It was a hard transition to supervisor," Susan went on. "I became a PPO at age 32, and that was my passion. I moved up so quickly that I did not spend as much on the street as a lot of people do. I like to go out in the field with the PPOs I supervise. I want to see how they

relate to the kids. Sue (RM Larisey) implemented a policy in January, that supervisors have to occasionally ride with the PPOs they supervise, I have always ridden with the people I supervise. It's hard to know how they interact with people if you don't see them. Sometimes I will go to court with them, so they don't have to take the full brunt in court."

"I enjoy the administrative role, but there's nothing like being out there in the field," Susan said. "My staff and I will pick nights that we can ride together to see their clients. At night, things are different than during the day. You see what goes on in the neighborhood, like drinking and other behaviors. You see the mother, the family, interact with the child you are supervising, and you get to see what's really happening in the house. I enjoy doing that, and I hope my staff enjoys it, too."

People often ride with the PPOs to experience what it's like in the field, Susan said. "We've had staff from central office ride with us."

Not long ago two legislative auditors rode with some of her PPOs while preparing for a performance audit. "They watched us open a case. They felt it was important for them to understand what we do and see firsthand what it's all about. They loved the experience," she said. "After the auditors saw the field work, they watched us complete the paperwork and even went to court. You just don't know what goes on in our work unless you get out into the field and into the facilities. These are experiences you can't have in most places."

"It's important that I understand my staff's experiences," Susan continued. "That's what makes a good supervisor. 'You build trust, a sense of teamwork and good communication when you do what they do and understand their challenges.'"

Asked what she likes to do outside work, Susan laughed. "I work all the time!" she said.

But, she admits to enjoying the role of hostess and having friends over. "I'm a relaxed person, and I love to cook, especially grilling," Susan said. "I'm a native of the small Cajun town of Eunice, where the men often do a lot of cooking. I learned to cook from my dad."

Susan coached a traveling fast pitch softball team for several summers, coaching girls aged 12 -16. "We would get them in middle school and watch them transform into high school students," she said.

"We're like Susan's kids," **Wendy Sarnier** said. "She's stuck with us, and can't send us back." That elicited chuckles and knowing glances from her colleagues. "Susan looks after us and behind us."

"Susan has high expectations of us," **Wendy** said. "I like that. It helps us to be the best we can be. There's Susan's policy and then there OJJ's policy. I can tell you, Susan's way exceeds OJJ's."

Clearly, Susan Miller spends her life taking care of kids, grown and not-so-grown. Not only is she setting the example and meeting the mission daily, she is teaching her staff to do the same.

## CQIS POLICY UPDATES

A.2.19 Special Agents 3/23/10

B.2.1 Assignment, Reassignment, Release and Discharge of Youth 3/15/10

B.2.5 **RESCINDED** Short Term Offender Program (STOP) 3/19/10

B.2.12 FAST TRACK 3/19/10

B.7.2 Educational and Work Experience Incentive Program 3/24/10



## Transitions

### Comings and Goings.....

Welcome to new members of the OJJ Family.

#### Baton Rouge

Yolanda Latimer,  
Probation/Parole Off. 1

#### Bridge City

Ola Kunle Awogboro, Correction Cadet  
Lacey Bailey, Corrections Sergeant  
Carol Boggs, Corrections Sergeant  
Darren Coates, Youth Care Worker 1  
Margie Green, Corrections Sergeant  
Lester Hamlin, Corrections Cadet  
Taskara Jackson, Corrections Sergeant  
John Jarvis, Jr., Corrections Cadet  
Monique Jones, Youth Care Worker 1  
LaJauna Jordan, Youth Care Worker 2  
Opal Joseph, Social Worker 1  
Steve Mickle, Corrections Sergeant  
Schontakelle Thomas, Youth Care Worker 3  
Thelma White, Corrections Cadet  
Horace Williams, Youth Care Worker 3  
Julia Jack, Social Service Counselor 1

#### Swanson

Collis Greene, Corrections Cadet  
Makevia Warren, Corrections Cadet

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**Don't take life so seriously...**  
**...dance...**



## Congratulations to Employees of the Quarter

### Region One

Officer of the Quarter: Natalie Pope,  
Shreveport  
Support of the Quarter: Shatina Salter,  
Shreveport

### Region Two

Supervisor of the Quarter: John Baker,  
Alexandria  
Officer of the Quarter: Donna DeSoto,  
Alexandria

### Region Three

Supervisor of the Quarter: Lorraine  
Thibodaux, Thibodaux  
Officer of the Quarter: Fred Fontenot, Lake  
Charles  
Support of the Quarter: Erline Pierce, Lake  
Charles

### Region Four

Supervisor of the Quarter: Carrie Austin,  
Hammond  
Officer of the Quarter: Jenna Hill,  
Hammond  
Support of the Quarter: Paulette Carter,  
New Orleans

## Success!

As often as we receive stories about our youth overcoming adversity and the situations they find themselves in, we will print them in *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*. Please keep the good news coming!

### Hammond OJJ Shares Success Story

**PPO2/J Shirley Verberne** recently received a call from Brandon F., a youth she supervised on probation. Brandon called to let her know that he completed the Youth Challenge Program and that he will be going to Job Corps. He thanked Shirley for all of her help and stated that he wouldn't have gone to YCP or Job Corps if it hadn't been for her!

## New Orleans/Jefferson OJJ Success

**PPO Daniel Mingea III** shared a very encouraging report about a youth within his caseload. Brian D. was discharged successfully from a substance abuse program on February 3, 2010 after a six month stay. Daniel reports that Brian has not missed a single day of school since his return to the community, moreover, Brian is on track to earn his GED. Brian's principal praised him for answering 100 out of 100 math problems correctly, while noting that most youth only answered 30 out of 100 correctly. Wow!!

Brian D. shared with Daniel that his experience in placement has aided him in his ability to resist the urge to smoke marijuana. Whenever Brian feels an urge, he recollects what he learned in placement and this seems to deter his desire to use drugs.

A personal salute to Brian, along with everyone who has helped him in this most challenging endeavor!

## Success in Lake Charles OJJ

**PPO2 Rebecca Harmon** has been extremely involved and proactive with a 14 year old female client. The young lady was pregnant and a chronic drug user, and OCS recently removed her younger siblings from the home due to inadequate parental supervision. But, through great efforts by Rebecca, the youth is now attending school, successfully delivered her HEALTHY baby girl last week, and is testing negative on drug screens....a complete turn around. Amazing job, Rebecca.

*...relax in nature...*



## April is PbS Data Collection Month

**By Katie Kirkpatrick, PbS Coordinator**

PbS – Performance-based Standards - is a nationally recognized improvement program developed by the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) to provide technical assistance and tools to support juvenile facilities to ensure quality standards of conditions of confinement.

In 2006, OJJ incorporated the PbS data collection process into the agency's existing Continuous Quality Improvement Services (CQIS) program. All three secure care facilities currently participate in PbS to assist in providing effective programs and services that promote healthy outcomes for youth.

April is PbS data collection month and each facility will be busy collecting information on youth and staff surveys, unusual incidents reports, and youth record reviews. Accurate data collection and documentation is an important step in the PbS improvement process.

**Lois Jenkins**, OJJ's PbS Coach from South Carolina, visited all three facilities last week to help "kick off" the data collection month. The visits were a huge success and the information and suggested practices discussed during these visits were beneficial to both Ms. Jenkins and the facilities.

All data outcome measures are analyzed by the facility as a team and facility improvement plans are created to address the areas in need of improvement. The success of a facility relates to how well it operates as a team and the participation of staff and youth adhering to the agency's mission, vision, and guiding principles.

## OJJ Turns out for the American Heart Association HeartWalk

By Administrative Assistant Gwen Brinkley

The START! Heart Walk was so much fun! We know exercise is beneficial to our physical and mental health, but who would have thought it could also be enjoyable. It can be when you combine fresh air, sunshine, smiling faces, free food, and of course Team OJJ. OJJ had a great showing. A number of staff from the Baton Rouge Offices, BCCY and JCY participated in the START! HeartWalk. They brought nieces, nephews, children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and friends.

We have some track stars on our team who ran the entire three miles. Those energetic track stars include **Dr. Mary Livers, DAS Michelle Smith, DAS Philippe Magliore, General Counsel Martha Morgan**, and from Hammond OJJ **PPO3 Dana May Chaisson, PPS Carrie Austin and PPO Kristen Rainey** – they are a force to be reckoned with when it comes to putting their heels to the pavement.

I was pleasantly surprised at the turnout! But then again, who would know unless you show?



I should have personally brought my measuring tape. Those were the longest miles I have ever walked...that's right walked. This is what happens when I run... However, I will be up for the challenge next year. It is never too late to get in shape.

I don't have all the names, but BCCY was out in full force in support of Heart Health. BCCY youth **Tevin A.** was OJJ's t-shirt design winner. We did not win the t-shirt contest, but it wasn't because we didn't try. I was able to finally meet **Darlene Anderson, Lynetta Henderson, Jaleta Jordan** and **Gwendolyn Stewart**. It means a lot to finally put faces to the daily emails and phone calls. Thanks to Darlene for her hard word and contribution to our t-shirt fundraiser. BCCY bought 44 t-shirts. The remaining t-shirt sales were from Baton Rouge. A total of 68 t-shirts were sold.

In addition to the t-shirt sales, donations were received from **Baton Rouge OJJ: Michelle Thomas; Central Office: Carmen Leiva, Arlona-Wells Morgan, Rosalyn Foster, Angela Arabie, Shirley Jackson, Tina Boudreaux, Girard Melancon; BCCY Staff; New Orleans/Jefferson: Paulette Carter, Earnessa Monciffe, Roxann Tuircuit, Yezette White, Justine Aguiar; Tallulah: Margo Corulla; BCCY: Gwendolyn Stewart and Johnny James.**

OJJ raised \$204 from the t-shirt fundraiser, \$225 from online donations, \$475 from central office fundraising projects, \$126 from cash donations for a **total of \$1030**. GREAT JOB, OJJ!

Saturday was a day of fundraising for a worthy cause and festive fun. There was lots of free food including jambalaya, soft drinks, popsicles, fruit, Subway sandwiches, yogurt, water, etc. There were inflatables for the kids, t-shirt contests, music, etc. I hope next year we will be able to have a tent and staff can bring their folding chairs to make a day of it.



*Team OJJ: front row: Kristen Rainey, David Magloire (Philippe's son – isn't he the cutest?), Dana May Chaisson, Carrie Austin, Dr. Livers; standing center: Darlene Anderson; Back row: Philippe Magloire, Jeleta Jordan, Penny Frazier, Gwendolyn Stewart, Lynetta Henderson, Gwen Brinkley, Martha Morgan, Michelle Smith and Lynn Singletary. Others were not corralled and are not pictured.*

**Carrie Austin** was the third female to finish overall. These track stars (pictured below) managed to cross the finish line first within Team OJJ and then showed their team spirit and support by cheering the rest of us to victory. You gotta love em.....I do.



*The three amigos from Hammond OJJ are Dana May Chaisson, Carrie Austin and Kristen Rainey, who were first to complete the walk for OJJ.*

## Alexandria Regional Office

### OJJ Staff Attend Job Fair

**PPO III Donna Desoto** and **PPO III Lori Johnson** recently attended the Annual Job Fair at Louisiana College. This is the second year OJJ has been invited to participate in the Job Fair. Our participation in this program allows the students to acquire information about various careers and especially to promote a career with OJJ. The turnout at the event was very successful and this will enhance the agency's ability to reach graduates and to spark their interest in a career that allows them to make an impact on a young person's life.

### Welcome

We welcome **PPO1 Brian Charles** and **PPO1 Cory Laborde**, who recently joined the team.

**We said our goodbyes** to the following employees:

**PPO1 Abby Lemoine** recently resigned.

**PPO III Justin Simons** has resigned his position to accepted a position with Federal Probation & Parole. Justin will be greatly

missed and we wish him well with his new position. A fish fry along with red beans and rice was prepared for Justin and staff by **RM Johnny Qualls**, **PPS John Baker**, and **PPS Clay Dupuy**.

### Good news

We are proud of **PPO III Donna Desoto**, for her completion of radiation treatment. Donna "Rang the Bell" at Cabrini Cancer Center after receiving 33 treatments. Donna is in good spirits and is doing very well.

Our Safety Compliance Review went extremely well. **PPO III Donna Desoto**, along with much input and assistance from **Administrative Coordinator 4 Sharon Graham**, revised the Safety Policy per request of the Office of Risk Management. Donna and Sharon worked for over six months updating and revising the safety policy. We are very proud to hear from the Safety Auditor that they did an "excellent job."

## Baton Rouge Regional Office

By **PPO Myron Theriot**

### Congratulations

BR-OJJ would like to congratulate **PPO 3 Cobie Chauvin**, our **Employee of the Month**. PPO Chauvin has been a member of the OJJ family for five years. Her co-workers see her as hard working, dedicated and a whole lot of fun. Congratulations PPO Chauvin, well done!

We would also like to recognize and congratulate **PPS Susan Miller** and **PPO Stefanie Krygowski** for completing the PPCT Instructors course. We are confident in knowing they have received and completed the proper training, that will not only ensure the safety and wellbeing of the officers in the Baton Rouge Office, but more importantly, the safety and well being of the youth that we



work with. A special congratulation goes out to all PPCT instructors through the entire state who endured and survived this training. We all know "PPCT isn't easy, but it's necessary."

### Community Outreach

Kudos to

+++++PPO1 **Myron Theriot**, who attended a Town Hall Meeting in the city of Maringouin in March. The town came together to discuss the recent rise in local youth violence and to determine what programs are needed to circumvent further youth violence in the area. The turnout was great!

Participants included many of the residents of Maringouin, young and old, prominent figures in the community, such as **Mayor John Overton**, **Chief of Police John Simien**, representatives of the Maringouin City Police, Iberville Parish **Juvenile Detective Ronnie Hebert**, and other representatives of the Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office.

### Training Events

In March Baton Rouge OJJ participated in the Sequoia Consulting Group's Random Moment Sampling Training (RMS), to educate OJJ employees on how to properly utilize the computer version of the time study.

The RMS is a more efficient method of obtaining Time Study data and will soon replace the paper form of the Time Study. The entire Baton Rouge Office and representatives from OCS participated in this training. We would like to thank **PM Melba Oubre**, **PM Carmen Leiva** and the Sequoia Consulting Group for a great job in executing the training session.

### Welcome

Baton Rouge OJJ would also like to welcome back a former member of the family in a new light. **PPO Yolanda Latimer** has joined the

Baton Rouge OJJ family once again. Her leadership, experience, and dedication to the wellbeing of the youth in our region make her an integral part of our agency. On behalf of BR-OJJ, welcome back, and we love you.

### Bridge City Center for Youth

#### Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences on the recent loss of **Mrs. Stephania Gaines**, wife of **BCCY Deputy Director Michael Gaines** and mother of **Jetson Group Leader Micon Gaines**. Please keep the Gaines family in your thoughts and prayers.

#### BCCY Hosts Several Tours

BCCY has become a popular destination for groups who want to observe a fully therapeutic secure facility.

Most recently, the president of the John D. and Katherine MacArthur Foundation, as well as several other MacArthur leaders, toured BCCY. Guests were **Dr. Robert L. Gallucci**, President of the foundation, **Laurie Garduque**, Director of Juvenile Justice, **Sean Knierim**, Chief of Staff, **Candice Jones**, Program Officer, and **Dr. Debra DePrato**, Project Director for MacArthur's Models for Change program in Louisiana. From central office, **Deputy Secretary Dr. Mary Livers**, **Assistant Secretary Girard Melancon**, **Deputy Assistant Secretary Philippe Magloire**, **Director of Education Kim Mims** and **Health Services Administrator Kelly Smith**, joined the tour.

**Chef Ron Sonnier** and the Culinary Arts Program youth outdid themselves in presenting an outstanding luncheon for the guests. "The meal was good as any I have enjoyed in fine restaurants," said Dr. Livers. "The food was great and the service was as good as in an upscale restaurant. A number of your youth were present and looked very nice in their white shirts and ties." The tour group visited some dorms and observed group

processes, including a check-in, and visited with youth and staff.

Two federal officials from OJJDP in Washington, D.C. recently visited BCCY. **Elissa Rumsey** and **Melodee Hanes** said they were very impressed and found Bridge City to be “absolutely amazing.” Ms. Rumsey and Ms. Hanes encouraged the youth to write letters to President Barack Obama, and send the letters to them in Washington, to be personally delivered to the White House.

Two juvenile justice professionals from Scotland also toured. **Forensic Psychologist Susan Steele** and **Programmes Worker Peter Sullivan**, with the Kibble Education and Care Centre ([www.kibble.org](http://www.kibble.org)) saw the recent story about BCCY in the New Orleans Times Picayune. They planned to attend conferences in New Orleans in March in San Antonio in April, and asked to visit BCCY in between. Ms. Steele and Mr. Sullivan described their organization and BCCY staff discovered numerous similarities.



*Two youth in Mrs. Trenisha Stanislas' class, left, look at a world map to locate Scotland, home of visitors Susan Steele and Peter Sullivan, right.*

Touring classrooms and dorms and visiting with youth, they engaged with youth and staff.

Ms. Steele emailed to say thanks to “all of the staff and young people of Bridge City who made our visit enjoyable and worthwhile. Our thanks to everyone for such warm hospitality.” They invited BCCY and central office staff to visit their facilities in Scotland.

### **New Pre-Service Class Graduates at BCCY**

New BCCY staff began the Preservice Training Class in March. These include **Carol Boggs, Margie Green, Julia Jack, Opal Joseph Schontakelle Thomas, Olakunle Awogboro, Lacey Lailey, Taskara Jackson, John Jarvis Jr.** and three SSD staff, **Judith Andrews, Shirley Lewis and Michelle Sykes.** Six returning staff, **Horace Williams, Darren Choates, Lajuana Jordan, Steve Michels, Thelma White and Monique Jones** began a two week LAMOD/Security refresher training to prepare them to work with the youth in the dorms. They all graduated on April 1.



*The newly graduated BCCY LA MOD class.*

### **Orientation Prepares Volunteers for Work**

BCCY hosted a volunteer orientation in March for 21 people from Morning Star, House of Deliverance and Regular Baptist Churches.

Each church was challenged to maintain an active role at the facility by engaging youth throughout the week as mentors.

The volunteers also agreed to use their unique talents to assist the youth in areas that were giving them trouble. With this in mind, volunteers agreed to help with the choir, coaching athletics, teaching and facilitating Bible study groups in the dorms.



*Volunteers at the orientation program.*

BCCY staff addressed topics including general safety, UORs, fire safety/fire drills, medical issues, confidentiality and a review of campus logistics.

Following the overview, participants received a tour of the facility, which included visits to Hope and Pride dormitories. Overall, the initiative appeared to be a success, with each volunteer voicing their excitement about getting to work.

## Central Office

### Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences on the loss of Mr. Edward Shanklin, father-in-law of Dr. Livers' Assistant Nita Franklin-Shanklin, and grandfather of Administrative Assistant Shaeki Shanklin.

**Accounting Technician Sonja Anderson** recently lost her father-in-law, and sadly, her mother-in-law passed away the next week.

Please keep both families in your thoughts and prayers.

### Congratulations

**Administrative Assistant Gwen Brinkley's daughter Tiffany Barrow** recently starred in the New Venture Theatre production "Fat Pig," a contemporary play about realism and acceptance.

## Angela Bridgewater Appointed to Interstate Commission



**Program Manager Angela Bridgewater**, MSW, LCSW, BACS, has been appointed by the governor to serve as the state of Louisiana's Administrator for the

Interstate Commission, Compact for Juveniles. The Interstate Commission for Juveniles preserves child welfare and promotes public safety interests by providing enhanced accountability, enforcement, visibility and communications in the return of juveniles who have left their state of residence without permission, and in cooperative supervision of delinquent juveniles who travel or relocate across state lines.

## Katie Kirkpatrick Feted with Bridal Shower

By Lynne Geromini, CQIS Administrative Program Director

CQIS' very own **Katie Kirkpatrick, PbS Coordinator**, was honored with a "SURPRISE" bridal shower recently. The shower was a huge success with her mother **Sandra Kirkpatrick**, Ma-maw **Edith Kirkpatrick** and even **Aunt Jane Kirkpatrick**



in attendance. To make things more interesting, those in attendance were provided with cards titled "Advice for the Bride to Be" and asked to write their personal thoughts. Well, let's just say, we had a lot of fun with this one –



keeping in mind of course, there was family in the room!!

Kudos to the CO men in attendance, they really entertained the group with their thoughts – which was much needed on a Friday afternoon. Katie and her “*Groom to Be*” **Todd Justice** made out very well, as staff loaded three vehicles with gifts they received. Katie and Todd will be married on April 24 at her Ma-maw’s house on the LSU Lakes. We wish them all the best and many happy anniversaries to come!

The shower arrangements, including gorgeous flowers, cake and punch, a bride-to-be sash, tiara and veil, were provided by CQIS staff, **Adm. Program Director Lynne Geromini, Chief of Operations Ellyn Peterson, ACA Accreditation Manager Angela Arabie, Executive Management Officer Debbie Linder, Administrative Assistant Phyllis Martello and Administrative Assistant Becky Richardson.**

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*ACA Accreditation Manager Angela Arabie, second from left, and Chief of Operations Ellyn Peterson, accept a certificate for Central Office Accreditation at the ACA 139th Congress of Correction held in Nashville, Tennessee. Presenting the certificate are Rod Budzinski, left and Denise Robinson, right, Chair.*

## Morale Committee Presents Easter Goodies to Staff

The central office Morale Committee continues to keep everyone’s spirits up, and most recently provided OJJ Survival Kits to all central office staff. **DAS Carolyn Lewis** called everyone together to announce the event and told us what each bag contained: Payday candy bar – because everyone needs an extra payday; Hugs-n-Kisses – for when you need a hug and kiss; smiley face buttons – for those days when it’s the only smile you can manage; Band-Aid – to patch up any hurt feelings; puzzle piece – without you, the picture isn’t complete; gum – stick together and accomplish more; Lifesaver - we all need one!

Each bag contained a plastic Easter egg with an inspirational message, and several held prize certificates. Winners were **Wanda Armwood**, scented candle; **Elaine Buzbee**, scented candle; **Wade Campbell**, bouquet of flowers (go ahead and laugh); **Nancy Gautreau**, picture frame; **Judy Landry**, Love, Faith, & Hope Plate; **Carolyn Lewis**, scented candle; **Dr. Livers**, New Orleans special edition magazine featuring the champion New Orleans Saints and **Dorothy Walker**, earrings.

Morale Committee members include **Katherine Abrams, Marvel Adams, Clarett Blount, Latrice Bracken, Gwen Brinkley, Wade Campbell, Suzie Durrett, Nita Franklin-Shanklin, Nykisha Franklin, Shirley Jackson, Kimberly Jones, Katie Kirkpatrick, Phyllis Martello, Terri Scott and Shaeki Shanklin.**

Many thanks to all the members of the Morale Committee for coming up with creative ideas and events that keep us smiling. We appreciate all they do year round.



## Hammond Regional Office

**PO3/J Dana May** recently put her First Aid skills to work while at court. Dana was in Slidell City Court when an elderly man had a seizure. Dana made sure that the man did not hurt himself and stayed with him until assistance arrived.

### Social Worker Appreciation Month Celebrated



March was Social Worker Appreciation Month! Hammond OJJ showed our appreciation for **SSCIV Lori Wagner** and **SW5A Daronda Lathan** by naming our halls after them!

Our staff proudly walks down "Lori Wagner Lane" and "Daronda Lathan Lane" in the office. Lori and Daronda were also presented with certificates of appreciation and positive statement certificates at our general staff meeting. We appreciate all you do!!!

## Jetson Center for Youth

### Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences on the recent loss of **Mrs. Stephania Gaines**, mother of **Jetson Group Leader Micon Gaines** and wife of **BCCY Deputy Director Michael Gaines**. Please keep the Gaines family in your thoughts and prayers.

Condolences to **Investigator Chester Davis**, who recently lost his father, Chester Davis Sr., and to **Major Larry Shropshire**, whose brother recently Charles passed away.

### "GET CAUGHT READING" Scenic Alternative High School's March Motivational Program

"Get Caught Reading" was implemented to encourage youth and staff to read works of authors that instill a positive message. The first book chosen for this initiative is entitled *"A View from the Roof - Lessons for Life and Business"* written by Dr. Calvin Mackie. The author is a native of Louisiana and currently a resident of New Orleans with his wife and two sons.

Jetson Center for Youth was chosen to be the initial site for the program. OJJ purchased books for every youth and extra copies for selected staff members. The youth along with the dorm leaders and counselors will read the book. Each teacher read one chapter and developed questions and activities to further explore the meanings and lessons shared by Dr. Mackie.

On March 5 the staff and youth of Jetson Center for Youth had the privilege of meeting Dr. Mackie at a special program designed to launch the **Get Caught Reading** initiative. Dr. Mackie kept the interest of the youth as he described his life and his purpose for writing the book. After the formal presentation, he allowed the youth to ask questions. Many

youth had interesting questions to ask and Dr. Mackie was very receptive.

*A View from the Roof* is a candid, down-to-earth guide to success. His message forces the reader to see things differently, to consider his arguments, and to learn from his experiences. His life story is an inspirational journey paved with the wisdom of work ethic, moral values, self worth and persistence.

The youth invited Dr. Mackey to return. They were very interested in his message and the way he delivered it. As one youth commented, "I can relate to him."



**Dr. Calvin Mackie**

### **Scenic Alternative High School Faculty Engages in Their Own Book Study**

**By Principal Ronnie B. Knox**

A faculty book study is underway at Scenic Alternative High School. The chosen book is *"Teach Like Your Hair's on Fire,"* a New York Times bestseller by Rafe Esquith, a teacher in Los Angeles, California. Teachers are assigned a chapter to present with supporting references to enhance the meaning of the information.

This book presents interesting techniques while creating a classroom where character matters, hard work is respected, humility is valued, and support for one another is unconditional. On March 5 the first three chapters were presented to the faculty.



**Carolyn Rash is a great SSD reading inclusion teacher in Janice Huggins' classroom.**

**Teacher Carolyn Rash** set the tone by entering the classroom wearing a bright red wig to drive home the importance of teaching like your hair's on fire. She presented the prologue and chapter one, "Gimme some Truth." Emphasis was placed on Esquith's motto: *"true excellence takes sacrifice, mistakes, and an enormous amount of effort - there are no shortcuts in teaching."* For learning to take place, classrooms should be positive places for children. He recommends replacing fear with trust, being positive and patient with students.

**Instructor Janice Huggins** presented the second chapter, "Searching for Level VI." The author incorporates Kohlberg's six levels of moral development in his classes as a means of helping the children grow as both students and people. The six steps take a lifetime of effort to master. A person does the right thing because of these six levels and where they are in the development of these levels. Level 1 is "I don't want to get in trouble" (based on fear), level 2 is "I want a reward," level 3 is "I want to please somebody," level 4 is "follow the rules," level five is "I am considerate of other people," and level 6 is "I have a personal code of behavior and I follow it." The author believes that these 6 levels can be developed and applied to the students' behavior but the starting point for this experience is TRUST.



*Denise Clause teaching the teachers*

**Instructor Denise Clause** presented the third chapter, "Reading for Life." The author's belief is that reading is a foundation for life, an activity that people who are engaged with the world do all the time. School's objectives for reading should focus on the joy, the passion, and the excitement of reading. Teachers and other adults set the example for students. The author stressed that assessment of reading must begin with standardized test scores BUT, in the end, we must measure a child's reading ability by the amount of laughter exhaled and tears shed as the written word is devoured.

Staff development in April will continue with additional chapters. The faculty's response was overwhelming, not only for the presentations but for the enthusiasm shown by the presenters.

### **Spring has sprung and the grass is greener at JCY**

**Principal Ronnie Knox** asked **Instructor Larry Poor** and **Para-educator Samuel Butler** to get things moving in the trades area, and they did.

Vocational students and staff have been very busy preparing for springtime. Mr. Poor and Mr. Butler, along with 17 vocational education students, have accomplished a great feat. They salvaged broken mowers, weed

trimmers and blowers and began the challenge of repairing them.

Many of the machines were targeted for disposal. The students were able to use the skills learned in outdoor power engine classes to make this project a huge success.

With guidance from the two adults, the youth repaired and made operational 7 Poulon mowers, 6 John Deere mowers, 6 Craftsman mowers, all walk behind machines, plus 18 weed trimmers and 4 blowers. This major rebuilding effort not only kept the mowers from going to the 'broken equipment cemetery' but saved JCY and OJJ the cost of repairs or parts. It is estimated that a savings of \$6,500 in labor alone was realized.

Commendations to Mr. Poor and Mr. Butler and the 17 students for a job extraordinarily well done!

A great big THANK YOU to everyone from Principal Knox.



*Left, Larry Poor, Trade Instructor, and right, Samuel Butler, Trade Para-educator, with some of the repaired equipment.*



## Lafayette/Opelousas Regional Office

By Kevin M. Broussard, PPO

### Race For The Cure

The Susan G. Komen Acadiana Region Race For The Cure, to benefit breast cancer research, was held on March 20 in Lafayette's Girard Park.

Team Mina, which was put together for last year's race in honor of Lafayette **PPO Mina Travis**, made another appearance. Officers and other staff members of Lafayette/Opelousas OJJ, as well as service providers and friends of officers, joined the team, and made a fantastic showing. Some did the 1 Mile Fun Run, while others dug in for the 5K race. Acadia Parish **PPO Jody Osmer** had the fastest OJJ time in the 5K with 28:22.

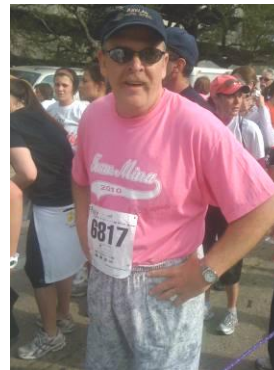
Last year's record of 9,000 registered participants was broken, as the tally of registered runners/walkers came to over 10,000. St. Mary Parish PPO **Kevin Broussard** was one of the numerous volunteers for the race.



*Left, Lafayette/Opelousas Regional Manager Sharon Guillory and right, Team Mina namesake Lafayette PPO Mina Travis.*



*Left to right: Hong Hebert, Program Specialist Patty Thomas, Lafayette PPOs Heather Campbell and Lynnette Broussard, Harriet Campbell, and Lisa Blasingame.*



*Iberia Parish PPS Robert Guirard, right after crossing the finish line of the 5K with a time of 32:06.*

### LARC Holds Trivia Night

The Lafayette Association for Retarded Citizens (LARC), with which Lafayette **PPO Roy Brown** works closely, held its second annual Trivia Night. OJJ's team consisted of Lafayette Parish PPOs **Chris Potier** and **Mina Travis** and her husband **Gene Miller**, St. Martin Parish PPO **Andrea Potier** and Vermilion Parish PPO **Bobby Jesset**. Lafayette PPO **Lynnette Broussard**, Acadia Parish PPO **Beth Broussard**, and Iberia Parish PPS **Robert Guirard** assisted with serving food and drinks. In addition to the trivia contests and food sales, there was also a silent auction. Proceeds from the event benefited LARC, as well as Action Krewe Civitan. PPO Brown estimated that the event raised over \$18,000.



## OJJ Mans Table at ULL Criminal Justice Job Fair

In March the University of Louisiana at Lafayette held its annual Criminal Justice Job Fair, featuring booths from local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. At the job fair students can speak with representatives from the agencies, and receive career information. OJJ was represented by St. Mary Parish **PPO Kevin Broussard**, who spoke with numerous students interested in working with at-risk youth, and provided information about all the wonderful careers OJJ offers.



*The Office of Juvenile Justice booth at the ULL Criminal Justice Job Fair*

## PPCT Recertification Completed



The Lafayette Region was recertified in PPCT in March.

The region's PPCT instructors, Lafayette **PPOs Lynnette Broussard** and **Mina Travis**, and Iberia Parish **PPO Deacon Jones**, really stepped up to the plate to make sure all officers and transport officers received the proper training.

## Lake Charles Regional Office

During March officers participated in weekly firearms practices and had opportunities to qualify with their weapons. Two officers, **PPO3 Delisa Clark** and **PPO3 Karli Pullard**, successfully transitioned from revolvers to their Glock .40s. Congratulations to all officers for qualifying without difficulty and for meeting the standard for another year!

Kudos to **PPO3 Karli Pullard**, **PPO2 Garrick Chambers**, and **PPO3 Monet Newman** for raising approximately \$80 each for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake annual fund raiser (minimums were only \$35). **Karli** was awarded a special prize from BB/BS for raising the most money from our office. **Garrick** was an excellent team captain and did an incredible job recruiting participants.

Thank you to all those staff members who have gone out of their way to improve our shared office space. Specifically, **Administrative Coordinator 3 Erline Pierce**, **PPO3 Delisa Clark**, **PPO3 Karli Pullard**, and **Administrative Coordinator 4 Annette Stoddard** have been given extensive kudos for extra purchases of hand soap, air fresheners, shelves, baskets, wall hangings, photo albums, etc., to improve the overall appearance of our building. Also, thank you to **Erline** and **Delisa** for all of the work being done in preparation for our office's (eventual) Open House.

**PPO3 Monet Newman** was recognized for her professionalism by several different professionals this month. New Orleans/Jefferson **Regional Manager Kelly Clement** commended Monet for being a studious SAVRY pupil and master trainer! **Dr. Yolanda Crump** and SCY staff noted Monet's professionalism while advocating for specialized services for one of her juveniles. Finally, **DAS Carolyn Lewis** complimented the thoroughness of Monet's documentation in case narratives as Ms. Lewis researched the case's history. We are proud of you, Monet!

**PPO3 Monet Newman** volunteered her personal time to participate in a group effort to improve the surroundings of The Lighthouse Ministries, a local home for unwed pregnant women and juveniles in need of prenatal services and parenting skills. The Lighthouse Program has provided service for many of OJJ's females in the past. Thank you, Monet, for your acts of service.

**PPO3 Ronald Gilchrist** was "caught" doing something great! He did not make mention of his efforts and did not seek praise. However, it was learned that Ronald often volunteers his Saturday evenings by coming in to the office and informally calling his probationers to say hello, ask how their weekend is going, and inquire about their weekend plans. This gesture communicates both concern for the families he serves and accountability for their actions. GREAT JOB, Ronald!

**PPO3 Gilchrist** also volunteered to take two of his probationers to an after-hours basketball playoff game in Jennings to reward them for their accomplishments and good behavior.

**PPO3 Karli Pullard** and **PPO3 Alexis Heflin** visited a female youth in the hospital to celebrate the life of her new infant.

Lake Charles OJJ is seeking a slogan or catch phrase to capture our mission and represent the drive within our office. We are hosting a contest among our employees and will vote. The winner will be rewarded by **Regional Manager Ann Vick**. This idea was inspired by The Leadership Challenge book being read by supervisory staff. Our winning slogan will be announced soon.

**PPO Angie Stevens** has been "caught" donating her time after hours and on weekends to keep her caseload in excellent shape! Angie has shown great examples of dedication to the quality of her work product!

**PPO3 Alexis Heflin** continues to receive kudos from her judges and Beauregard Parish professionals for excellent service to their community.

**PPO Hollie Comeaux** has been working closely with one of her juveniles and remained in frequent contact with him to ensure his successful completion of the Youth Challenge Program. She is now continuing to motivate this youth to complete his GED, as he is very near completion.

**PPO Fred Fontenot** has been working with a female juvenile for an extended probationary period. She was finding excuses to not attend school due to lack of uniforms. PPO Fontenot would not accept this excuse. He took her to WalMart and purchased uniform pants, *at his own expense*, for the young lady. Her attendance has improved as a result! Great generosity!

On the first day the assignment was given, **PPO2 Garrick Chambers** showed initiative and completed TEN parent surveys! Great job!

**PPO1 Jeff Haley** has shown great initiative and creativity in his caseload. He works incredibly hard to keep an 11 year old out of OJJ's legal custody and has been investing a great deal of time in her case. He continues to further develop his relationship with Cameron Parish professionals to arrange community service opportunities for his clients. Jeff routinely includes restorative justice efforts in his recommendations to the Court.

*...make a lot of friends....*



## Monroe Regional Office

### Condolences



**Donald Hamler**, a long time probation officer with Monroe OJJ, recently passed away. Mr. Hamler retired in December 2009, after over 20 years of loyal, faithful and truly wonderful service to the youth in the Monroe Region. Words cannot say how much he is missed. Don was buried March 18<sup>th</sup>. Pallbearers were **PPO3 Patrick Cooper, PPO3 Joel McNair, PPO3 Willie Hunter, PPO3 Gary Hunter, PPS Orlando Davis, and PPS Karl Wallace**. Monroe OJJ staff joined together to take food to the family, and several officers took it upon themselves to mow Don's yard and even painted the kitchen for his wife. For those of you who had the pleasure to know Don, you will understand that we have lost 'a good man'. Please keep the Monroe office and the Hamler family in your prayers during this difficult time. Cards of condolence may be sent to the Hamler family at 120 Charlotte Circle, Monroe, LA 71202.

**Regional Manager Patty Newman, PPS Larry Tolbird, PPS Gail Wilson, PPO3 Gary Hunter and PPO3 Willie Hunter** attended the Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice in New Orleans in March.

### Congratulations

**PPO Mark Miller and PPO Amanda Wilhite** started the POST Academy on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Good luck, Y'all!

Monroe OJJ would like to congratulate **PPO Orlando Davis**, who will marry **Sarah Neal** in a ceremony at the West Monroe Convention Center on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations O!!!! It's about time.

## Speaking of Orlando...so to speak...

By PPS Gail Wilson

I don't know if you know PPO Orlando Davis, but he is quite a character. He comes up with a monthly quote for our office by giving his version of a famous quote; we call it the Orlandoism. I wanted to share this month's quote:

"The world we have made as a result of the level of thinking we have done thus far creates problems we cannot solve at the same level at which we created them." - Albert Einstein

Orlandoism: "The mentality you use to create an issue or problem cannot be the same mentality you use to find a solution to an issue or problem. Another form is thinking is needed."

## Natchitoches Regional Office

### Congratulations

**PPO3 Ashley Ward was named Employee of the Month** by her peers.

**Deanna Williams** was promoted from PPO1 to PPO2.

**PPO3 Sederick Smith** is leaving our agency to pursue employment with Adult Probation.

**AC3 Monica Breedlove** went to Monroe OJJ to answer the phones while staff attended the funeral of retired co-worker Donald Hamler on March 18.

**PPS Kristen McComic, PPOs Ieisha Beasley, Joseph Black, Kelvin Jones** and his wife, **Diane Jones** attended Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice in New Orleans.

**PPS Simon Sarpy** attended CPTP training on Essentials for Supervisors, in Alexandria.



## New Orleans/Jefferson Regional Office

Our own **PPO3 Stanley Schofield** was the keynote speaker for the Hope Academy at their "Everyday Young Ladies Program" held in March. The program focused on keeping the body healthy, at-risk behaviors, proper etiquette and many other enlightening topics.

Again, in March, Mr. Schofield used his oratorical skills to impart knowledge and wisdom during the 2010 Gospel Fest at the Refuge Temple Church. **Mr. Santangelo** of Refuge Temple thanked Mr. Schofield for an experience that increased self worth, revealed purpose and reaffirmed that we all are predestined to do specific things in life.

On March 26 Boys Town held the **GRAND REOPENING** of their Bienville home, entitled "A rebuilt survivor of Hurricane Katrina." According to Boys Town, the Bienville home is back, to begin repairing the broken lives of troubled youth. Region 1 wants Boys Town to know that we are here to assist them in picking up the pieces.

## Shreveport Regional Office

### Congratulations

Congratulations to **PPO2 Nitasha Gibson** who was honored by being selected as **Shreveport OJJ Employee of the Month** for February and **PPO2 Todd Carlisle** who was selected as **Shreveport OJJ Employee of the Month** for March.

Congratulations to two Shreveport OJJ staff who were selected for the Fourth Quarter 2009 Employee Awards. **PPO3 Natalie Pope** was selected as the **Officer of the Quarter/Region One** and **Administrative Coordinator Shatina Salter** was selected as **Support Staff of the Quarter/Region One**. They've made us very proud!

### Training Opportunities

**PPO2 Nitasha Gibson** and **PPO2 LaTonya Marshall** attended the Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice. They had a good time and enjoyed the learning opportunities.

In March, all of Shreveport OJJ completed PPCT in-service training conducted by PPCT Instructors **PPO2 Daniel Barnard** and **PPO2 Todd Carlisle**.

**PPO3 Charles Herrmann** completed a Close Quarters Combative Training Course held at the Caddo Sheriff's Academy.

### Community Meetings

**PPS Kim Scott-Carlisle** represented OJJ at the Northwest Regional Reentry Summit sponsored by Adult Probation and Parole in Shreveport in February.

In March **Regional Manager Kristi Martin** and **PPS Kim Scott-Carlisle** attended the Northeast Judicial Juvenile Justice Summit sponsored by Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges at the University of Louisiana in Monroe.

### Good Deeds for the Less Fortunate

**PPS Guy May** and **PPOs** under his supervision adopted a local school in Guatemala and donated school supplies, candy, hats, and toys which PPS May delivered while vacationing in Guatemala on spring break. *The photos below show Guy with some of the children.*





## Swanson Center for Youth

### Get Caught Reading with Dr. Calvin Mackie

On March 25, D. Calvin Mackie, author of *"A View From the Roof,"* kicked off our "Get Caught Reading" initiative. e was energetic, motivating and all who heard him was very impressed with his words. SCY is truly blessed to have had him with us for a full day. The youth received their books this month. We will start a new chapter each week and certificates of achievement will be given.



*Top and bottom: Dr. Calvin Mackie addresses SCY youth.*



### SCY Continues to Work with Habitat for Humanity

Carpentry Instructor Bobby Moffett and his carpentry class are preparing to start another Habitat for Humanity building. Mr. Moffett will start with nine youth and plans to build three houses in eight weeks. A ground breaking of new Habitat homes that SCY youth helped to build will be held on April 22.

## Swanson Celebrates Social Services Month

March is National Social Work Month. At SCY, the Social Workers/Social Services Counselors held a weeklong celebration March 22-26. The week began on Monday with a breakfast, complete with everything from cereal to bacon to sausage and biscuit sandwich. On Tuesday, the staff received bags of candy with a large note pad. The celebration continued on Wednesday when the staff arrived for what they thought was a mandatory meeting and was treated to cake and ice cream. On Thursday one of the counselors slaved over the grill to make delicious hamburgers and hot dogs enjoyed by all. On Friday, the week culminated with a gathering at a local park to eat a meal donated by a local restaurant and to play challenge course games. The hit of the entire week was a scavenger hunt that entailed the staff having to locate a mystery person on campus. Each morning they were provided a clue and had to seek out the person and ask the question of the day. Each winner received a prize of a meal at a fast food restaurant. The winner on Friday was the grand prize winner and received the gift of a meal at a high-end restaurant.

Needless to say, fun was had by all, and there was excellent participation and spirit of support and cooperation. It served as a great morale booster. We would like to thank the committee, supervisors and private donors for making our week a success.

### Annual All-Star Basketball Game Held



SCY's annual All-Star basketball game was held recently with East and West teams competing.

The East team was the winner.

## Kudos to SCY Youth Care Worker, Melissa Jones Salter

18 March 2010

Dear Ms. Salter:

On 16 March 2010, during the second period I entered **Mrs. Kennedy's** classroom for an informal observation. I was pleasantly surprised and pleased to see you sitting beside a student helping him with his classroom assignment. The students were all on task, quiet and respectful; I attribute this in large part to your presence and rapport with the students. You are to be commended for taking an active role in the classroom and striving to implement and uphold the LA MOD process.

Thank you, your work is appreciated.

*William E. Lee*, Principal

## Tallulah Regional Office

### Condolences

Former PPO **Glenn Lively** died on March 8. Glenn was a probation officer for the Tallulah Office for 20 years before he retired in 1995.

**PPO III Truett Glass** and his family will participate in the Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis on May 1<sup>st</sup> in Vicksburg, Ms. **Truett's son, Justin**, age 5, has CF.

**PPS Johnnie Bowman** has been selected to be a volunteer for the United Way in Madison Parish.

### Diversion Program for At-Risk Youth Returns

The 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney's office recently re-implemented the 6<sup>th</sup> JDC Adolescent Diversion Program/Youth Intervention Program, conducted by 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney **James Paxton**, Program Director **James Williams**, and

**Administrative Assistant Jacquelyn Thomas**. The program provides preventive education, informal counseling and referral services to at-risk youth and first-time juvenile misdemeanor offenders, ages 8-17. Activities include one-on-one counseling, prevention presentations and lectures by qualified presenters, film presentations, educational field trips, a summer recreation program, job readiness including assistance in finding employment, parenting classes and mentoring. The Program Board advisors include local volunteers, ministers, school officials, an IDB attorney, law enforcement officials, and OJJ staff member **PPS Margo Corulla**. The program presently serves 82 youths from the parishes of East Carroll, Madison, and Tensas. This Youth Intervention Program was recently granted the total award of \$26,000 from the Louisiana Commission of Law Enforcement (LCLE).

## Thibodaux Regional Office

### Congratulations

Congratulations to **PPO Josef Nguyen** who was chosen March **Employee of the Month**.

Congratulations to **Youths Cordale R. and Wendell B.**, who were accepted to participate in the upcoming Youth Challenge Program-Camp Carville. They are both supervised by **PPO Allison Lirette**, Lafourche Parish.

*...have fun and be happy!*



# The Inside Scoop...of OJJ

*The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* is published monthly to communicate with and about OJJ staff in offices and facilities throughout the state, about agency activities, happenings and items of interest.

*The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* is produced by the Central Office with input from staff statewide.

...until next month

## OJJ Administrative Team

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Philippe Magloire, *Deputy Assistant Secretary, Facilities*  
Ellyn Peterson, *Chief of Operations*  
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Shreveport: Terri Harber  
Swanson: Kristi Walker  
Tallulah: LaJuana Harrell  
Thibodaux: Allison Lirrette

## **SPEAK (Special Projects, Expertise and Knowledge)**

Michelle Smith, *Dep. Asst. Secretary, Special Projects*  
Jerel Giarrusso, *Communications Director*  
Fran Martin, *Director of Staff Development*  
Gwen Brinkley – *Administrative Coordinator*